



OREGON ELKS NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Oregon State Elks Association
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Always an Elk

OSEA President's message

Good Day Elks!



Here we are again, writing an article for the newsletter. I know many of the officers in the lodges around the state write for their Lodge Bulletins every month too, so I am sure that many of you out there understand this next statement. I would rather scrub

pots in the kitchen for three hours than write an article every month! There, I said it (and I'm only on number seven of twelve articles).

As long as we are on the subject, I prefer manual labor to "pressing the flesh." I can memorize the ritual forward and backward but have trouble with financial spreadsheets. I have a strong grasp on representing Elkdom in a good light but struggle with optimism and cheerleading. I feel I can navigate problems and conflicts but have a hard time delegating tasks to others. I don't like writing these articles, but I can scrub the hell out of a cooking pot.

The point is that each of us has our own strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes, from the brand new committee member to the honored "old-timer." As we recognize those weaknesses we should learn to overcome them rather than avoid the situation. When our strengths become apparent, we should be utilizing that skill and teaching it to others, helping to eliminate their weaknesses. A good leader will see these tendencies in others and utilize the strength while nurturing the growth of those who lag in an area. That same leader will also recognize when another's knowledge and talent are better suited for a job and stand aside to achieve the best result, all the while observing and learning (so if someone wants to pick up a few President's messages...).

Unfortunately, there are times when delegation is not an option. The Exalted Ruler must run the meeting, the District Deputy must deal with spreadsheets and paperwork, and I must write these articles. One thing I know about Elks, if you need help and ask for it, you will find it in spades.

Remember, writing an article or scrubbing pots in the kitchen, Always An Elk.

Fall Seminar Presentations

First, thank you to the members and volunteers of the Salem Elks Lodge for their hospitality during the 2023 OSEA Fall Seminar. The lodge held a successful seminar with over 230 attendees. All of the presentations from the Fall Seminar have been posted in the My Elks App as well as on the Fall Seminar Page under member resources on the Oregon State Elks Association Website. In addition to this years presentations, you can also access presentations from the 2020 (Virtual), 2021 (Oregon City), and 2022 (Baker City) Fall Seminars as well.

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Newsletter articles can be submitted to the OSEA Public Relations and Marketing Committee at info@oregonelks.org.

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Grand Exalted Ruler: Elks remain committed to serving veterans in need



November brings to mind a couple of very special days. On November 11, Veterans Day, we honor our veterans, past and present. There are so many ways to say thank you to our nation's veterans. Hosting dinners in our Local Lodges, sending care packages, and participating in events at Veterans Administration hospitals are just a few ways.

The Elks are committed to their mission "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." The Elks National Veterans Service Commission takes that pledge one step further and promises to render aid to our nation's veterans and military members with a special focus on those in need. The ENVSC empowers local communities by giving them the resources to directly serve veterans, military members, and their families.

The ENVSC supports a vast network of Voluntary Service Representatives, providing local outreach support to our veterans in need all over the country. This network is only successful because of the hard work performed by individual Lodge Members.

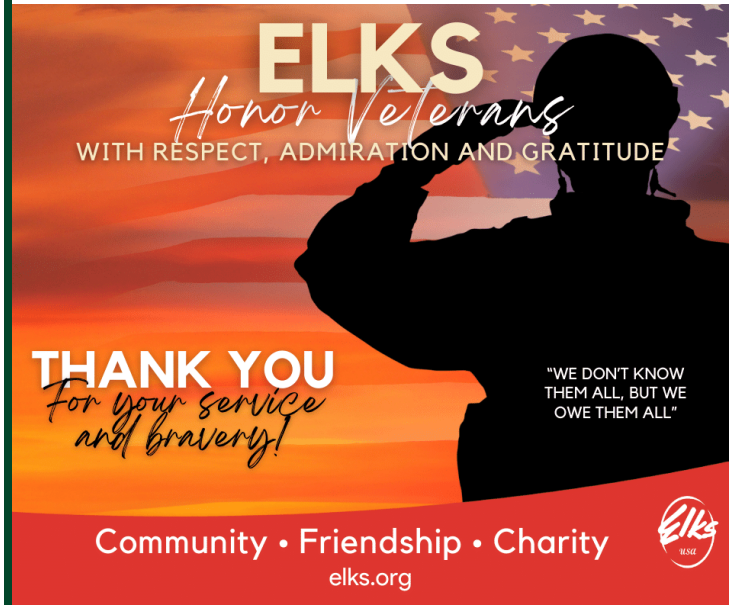
In 1946, the Commission formalized a commitment that was evident since the earliest days of Elkdom to serving veterans. Though much has changed since then, the Elks' dedication to serve veterans and military members in need has never wavered. In VA Clinics, veterans' homes, USOs, homeless shelters, and elsewhere, thousands of Elks volunteers generously give their time, energy, and resources to serve veterans and military members each year. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, who are reminding our communities, "We Are THE Elks."

November 23 is Thanksgiving, a day for us to thank God for all the blessings that have been bestowed on each of us, our family, our friends, our Order, and our great country. It is also a day we ask for the blessings of God to guide us and show us ways to help those who are less fortunate so we

may make their life better, proving "Elks Care — Elks Share." Happy Thanksgiving.

Remember: "We Are THE Elks."

God bless our great Order, our troops, and the United States of America.



Momentum builds for membership gain

Last year we attained a 19,958 net gain in membership. This has generated remarkable momentum for this fraternal year.

We are now in the homestretch of the year—the final numbers for the 2023–2024 Lodge year will be recorded on March 31. We are projecting more than 100,000 new Members will be added to the rolls this fraternal year. We are also trending towards lower than average cancellations.

Membership retention is the key to sustainable membership growth. If this all pans out, we will be in a strong position for another robust gain. This success is owed to Elks around the country, who have been louder and prouder in their service to their communities than ever before. The Membership and Marketing Department helped by providing recruitment resources such as the join.elks.org website, which gives prospective Members information on how to apply to join the Elks and provides inspirational messages explaining why it is great to be an Elk. Make sure you initiate all your candidates before March 31, 2024.

All Gas. No Brakes!

OREGON ELKS

POSTER CONTEST for eye safety

DESIGN A POSTER
about how to prevent eye injuries!

OPEN TO:
4th, 5th & 6th graders

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1 MAKE A PAPER POSTER ABOUT HOW TO PREVENT EYE INJURIES
- 2 USE CRAYONS, WATERCOLORS, INK, PAINT, ANYTHING!
- 3 MAKE SURE IT'S AT LEAST 12" x 18" BUT NOT BIGGER THAN 16" x 22"
- 4 USE ANY ART SUPPLIES YOU WANT, BUT BE SURE IT'S LEGIBLE FROM 5 FEET AWAY
- 5 DON'T USE ANY COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS LIKE MICKEY MOUSE OR SPONGEBOB
- 6 THE BACK OF YOUR POSTER MUST INCLUDE STUDENT INFO & SCHOOL INFO

Cash prizes up to \$300!

ANY QUESTIONS? CONTACT BETHANY LANG: PAINTERB@OHSU.EDU

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

Eye injuries are a major cause of permanent vision loss for Oregon children, and they can be prevented!

Jan. 31 Deadline

ALWAYS REMEMBER

Don't run with anything sharp in your hand

Wear sunglasses



Wear safety glasses when working with or around tools

Go outside and play to prevent nearsightedness (really!)



Sponsored by the Oregon State Elks Visual Program in partnership with the Oregon Elks Children's Eye Clinic, OHSU

OSEA Public Relations and Membership Webinar November 12th

The OSEA Public Relations and Marketing Committee will be holding a webinar on November 12th at 2pm to discuss various topics related to public relations and membership. This will be an opportunity to learn about various tools and resources to help your lodge run a successful public relations and membership program for your lodge. Planned topics for the webinar include:

- Public Relations - Promoting Lodge Events
- The Lodge Bulletin Contest
- Grand Lodge Tools and Resources
- The Dues Billing Program
- Membership Resources
- Reports
- Social Shareables
- Membership
- Delinquents
- Discover Elks
- You've got new members. Now what?
- Open Space for Questions and Answers

Please share with your lodge PR and Membership chairs as well as any other members who may be interested in attending. To get the link for the zoom meeting email PR & Marketing Chair Blake Whitson at blake.orncelks@gmail.com. This sessions will also be recorded and shared on oregonelks.org for those unable to attend. If you are unable to attend but have a question you would like answered you can also email those questions to Blake Whitson and if time allows submitted questions will be answered in addition to those asked by live attendees.



Oregon Elks
Public Relations & Membership Webinar
Tools and resources for a successful
Public Relations and Membership Program

Topics

- Lodge Bulletin
- Dues Billing Program
- Reports and other resources
- Delinquent members
- Discover Elks
- Engaging New Members

OREGON STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION

Sunday November 12th at 2pm Pacific. Message for Zoom details

No holiday break for drug awareness

The last two months were very busy months for the Elks Drug Awareness Program, with Red Ribbon Week activities, Drug Take Backs, the DEA's 50th anniversary celebration, and Lodges nominating law enforcement officials for the distinguished Enrique Camarena Award.

This month seems to be equally busy. While most of us center our thoughts around the holiday season, this is no time to relax. Drugs don't take holidays! Don't take my word for it.

"Fentanyl is the single deadliest drug threat our nation has ever encountered. Fentanyl is everywhere. From large metropolitan areas to rural America, no community is safe from this poison. We must take every opportunity to spread the word to prevent fentanyl-related overdose death and poisonings from claiming scores of American lives every day." — DEA Administrator Anne Milgram.

That's why Elks must and will do their part.

Our podcast series Awkward Conversations Season 3 is well underway. If you've not had a chance to do so, please take a look by going to YouTube and search for "ElksDAP." While our podcasts are lengthy, they are worth listening to. Our experts have a great deal to offer. Why not check it out?

On behalf of the directors, the commissioners, State Chairs, Lodge Chairs and all those involved in the Elks' effort to educate our kids and strengthen our communities, we want to wish you all the very best during this holiday season.

We look forward to 2024, and we remain mindful of the dangers young people face. We thank you for all that you do.



ELKS
Drug Awareness
SAY NO

Community • Friendship • Charity
join.elks.org

ELKS
O.S.A.

Symbolic ENF gifts make everyone feel good

As the holiday season approaches, so does the dread of coming up with gift ideas for your loved ones. Are you tired of giving trinkets or pairs of socks every year? Would you rather give a gift that has the power to change lives? This year, consider giving the gift of a symbolic donation to the ENF.

Symbolic gifts are donations to the ENF that represent the difference your donation makes. By choosing to give a symbolic gift, you can feel good knowing you are helping build stronger communities.

The symbolic giving program allows you to choose what you want your donation to represent. First, start with our programs: Community Investments, Veterans Service, Scholarships, or Hoop Shoot. From there, choose a specific action, like putting Elks volunteers in the field, providing a Welcome Home Kit, covering the cost of a college textbook, or creating trading cards for the Hoop Shoot National Finalists.

Once you have chosen the cause you are passionate about, you will have the option to send an e-card to someone you love to let them know you have given this gift in their honor. If you would rather give a physical card, you can print out the e-card and give it to them that way. No matter what you choose, the recipient of your card will feel good knowing this gift is making a real difference in someone's life.

While the power of a donation is reason enough to give, you can rest assured in knowing that every symbolic gift is credited to your personal recognition levels and your Lodge's per-Member giving total, too.

No more socks for Christmas! Feel good about giving gifts this holiday season with our symbolic giving program.

A 501(c)(3) public charity, the Elks National Foundation helps Elks build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet needs in areas where Elks live and work. For more information on the ENF, visit elks.org/enf.



**Elks
National
Foundation, Inc.**

Betty Hise for Cancer Research

Betty Hise for Cancer Research celebrated the end of their year in Salem at the OSEA Fall Seminar. Completing their 4th year (plus one during Covid) was Deb McFerron from Keizer and Sheri Bowers from Silverton. Deb and Sheri have now advanced to the Advisor role which is a group of past Directors that are welcomed by the Board of Directors to be as involved in Betty Hise activities as it works for them! The current 4th year Directors are Barbara Smith from Bend and Lillian Estep from Burns.

Welcomed onto the Board are new 1st year Directors Sharon James from Medford and Helen Altair from Forest Grove. See Board of Directors photo taken after our dinner celebrating Deb and Sheri.



Reminder: Hillsboro Lodge on Friday after Thanksgiving for 'Bakin Bacon for Betty' fundraiser! Show up to eat bacon in various dishes! Contact Cathy Kingery 503-317-9283.

Betty Hise for Cancer Research will continue for another year supporting colon cancer study at Idaho's St Lukes Cancer Institute. SLCI declares advanced, compassionate cancer care history of more than 50 years. They are the region's largest provider of cancer care and a leader in cancer research. An Oregon program we are staying in support of is that of ovarian cancer at the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute at OHSU. Their cancer center was launched in 1991. Through innovative, collaborative research and education, they provide prevention, detection and care – one person at a time.

Proud to promote these two cancer treatment centers. Thank you for the continued support of baskets donated and tickets purchased for the drawings most recently at the Fall Seminar in Salem.

Directors: Barbara, Lillian, Pam, Laurie, Cassandra, Virginia, Sharon, and Helen.



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November 2023 OSEA Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 OSEA Presidents Visit North District @ Sherwood	4 OSEA Presidents Visit North District @ Sherwood
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day
12 PR & Membership Webinar @2pm	13	14	15	16	17 OSEA Presidents Visit West District @ Sweet Home	18 OSEA Presidents Visit West District @ Sweet Home
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2